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Agenda item 96

Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Knut **Langeland** (Norway)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled:

"Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session:

"(a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament;

"(b) Report of the Disarmament Commission"

was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly resolutions S-10/2 of 30 June 1978, 38/183 O of 20 December 1983, 39/148 H of 17 December 1984, 65/85 and 65/86 of 8 December 2010, and 66/59 and 66/60 of 2 December 2011.

2. At its 2nd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2012, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.

3. At its 1st meeting, on 5 October 2012, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 86 to 102. From 8 to 12 and on 15 and 16 October, the Committee held a general debate on those items and had an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, including on follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/67/PV.2-8). The Committee also held 10 meetings, from 17 to 19 and from 22 to 25 October, and on 1 and 2 November, for a thematic debate and panel discussions with independent experts (see A/C.1/67/PV.9-18). At the 9th to 18th meetings, from 17 to 19 and from 22 to 25 October, and on 1 and 2 November, draft

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resolutions were introduced and considered (see A/C.1/67/PV.9-18). The Committee took action on all draft resolutions and decisions at the 18th to 22nd meetings, on 2 and from 5 to 7 November (see A/C.1/67/PV.18-22).

4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it the following documents:

(a) Report of the Conference on Disarmament (A/67/27);

(b) Report of the Disarmament Commission for 2012 (A/67/42);

(c) Report of the Secretary-General on the work of the Advisory Board on Disarmament Matters (A/67/203);

(d) Note by the Secretary-General transmitting the report of the Director of the United Nations Institute for Disarmament Research (A/67/169).

II. Consideration of proposals

A. Draft resolution A/C.1/67/L.5

5. At the 16th meeting, on 25 October, the representative of Peru, on behalf of members of the Bureau of the Disarmament Commission, introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission" (A/C.1/67/L.5).

6. At its 18th meeting, on 2 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/67/L.5 without a vote (see para. 9, draft resolution I).

B. Draft resolution A/C.1/67/L.33

7. At the 17th meeting, on 1 November, the representative of Germany introduced a draft resolution entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament" (A/C.1/67/L.33).

8. At its 21st meeting, on 6 November, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/67/L.33 without a vote (see para. 9, draft resolution II).

III. Recommendations of the First Committee

9. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolutions:

Draft resolution I
Report of the Disarmament Commission

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Disarmament Commission,[1]

Recalling its resolutions 47/54 A of 9 December 1992, 47/54 G of 8 April 1993, 48/77 A of 16 December 1993, 49/77 A of 15 December 1994, 50/72 D of 12 December 1995, 51/47 B of 10 December 1996, 52/40 B of 9 December 1997, 53/79 A of 4 December 1998, 54/56 A of 1 December 1999, 55/35 C of 20 November 2000, 56/26 A of 29 November 2001, 57/95 of 22 November 2002, 58/67 of 8 December 2003, 59/105 of 3 December 2004, 60/91 of 8 December 2005, 61/98 of 6 December 2006, 62/54 of 5 December 2007, 63/83 of 2 December 2008, 64/65 of 2 December 2009, 65/86 of 8 December 2010 and 66/60 of 2 December 2011,

Considering the role that the Disarmament Commission has been called upon to play and the contribution that it should make in examining and submitting recommendations on various problems in the field of disarmament and in promoting the implementation of the relevant decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Disarmament Commission;[1]

2. *Reaffirms* the validity of its decision 52/492 of 8 September 1998 concerning the efficient functioning of the Disarmament Commission;

3. *Recalls* its resolution 61/98, in which it adopted additional measures for improving the effectiveness of the methods of work of the Disarmament Commission;

4. *Reaffirms* the mandate of the Disarmament Commission as the specialized, deliberative body within the United Nations multilateral disarmament machinery that allows for in-depth deliberations on specific disarmament issues, leading to the submission of concrete recommendations on those issues;

5. *Also reaffirms* the importance of further enhancing the dialogue and cooperation among the First Committee, the Disarmament Commission and the Conference on Disarmament;

6. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to continue its work in accordance with its mandate, as set forth in paragraph 118 of the Final Document of the Tenth Special Session of the General Assembly,[2] and with paragraph 3 of Assembly resolution 37/78 H of 9 December 1982, and to that end to make every effort to achieve specific recommendations on the items on its agenda, taking into

[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 42* (A/67/42).

[2] Resolution S-10/2.

account the adopted "Ways and means to enhance the functioning of the Disarmament Commission";[3]

7. *Recommends* that the Disarmament Commission continue the consideration of the following items at its substantive session of 2013:

(a) Recommendations for achieving the objective of nuclear disarmament and non-proliferation of nuclear weapons;

(b) Practical confidence-building measures in the field of conventional weapons;

8. *Requests* the Disarmament Commission to meet for a period not exceeding three weeks during 2013, namely from 1 to 19 April, and to submit a substantive report to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session;

9. *Requests* the Secretary-General to transmit to the Disarmament Commission the annual report of the Conference on Disarmament,[4] together with all the official records of the sixty-seventh session of the General Assembly relating to disarmament matters, and to render all assistance that the Commission may require for implementing the present resolution;

10. *Also requests* the Secretary-General to ensure full provision to the Disarmament Commission and its subsidiary bodies of interpretation and translation facilities in the official languages and to assign, as a matter of priority, all the resources and services necessary, including verbatim records, to that end;

11. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session", the sub-item entitled "Report of the Disarmament Commission".

[3] A/CN.10/137.

[4] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/67/27).

Draft resolution II
Report of the Conference on Disarmament

The General Assembly,

Having considered the report of the Conference on Disarmament,[1]

Convinced that the Conference on Disarmament, as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community, has the primary role in substantive negotiations on priority questions of disarmament,

Recognizing the addresses and messages, respectively, of the President of the General Assembly and the Secretary-General of the United Nations, as well as the addresses of Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials in the Conference on Disarmament, as expressions of support and of concern for the endeavours of the Conference, and as calls for the Conference to immediately commence negotiations to advance disarmament goals through the adoption of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work,

Recognizing also the need to conduct multilateral negotiations with the aim of reaching agreement on concrete issues, and considering that the present international climate should give additional impetus to multilateral negotiations,

Noting the follow-up discussions to the high-level meeting on revitalizing the work of the Conference on Disarmament and taking forward multilateral negotiations, held on 24 September 2010 at the initiative of the Secretary-General,

Noting with renewed concern that, despite the efforts by States members and successive Presidents of the Conference on Disarmament in the 2012 session to reach consensus on a programme of work on the basis of relevant proposals and suggestions, including the revised draft decision of 14 March 2012 submitted for adoption, the Conference on Disarmament did not succeed in commencing its substantive work, including negotiations, as called for by the General Assembly in its resolution 66/59 of 2 December 2011, or in agreeing on a programme of work,

Recalling, in this respect, that the Conference on Disarmament has a number of urgent and important issues for negotiation to achieve disarmament goals,

Welcoming the overwhelming call for greater flexibility with respect to commencing the substantive work of the Conference on Disarmament without further delay, on the basis of a balanced and comprehensive programme of work,

Appreciating the continued cooperation among the States members of the Conference on Disarmament as well as the six successive Presidents of the Conference at its 2012 session,

Noting with appreciation the significant contributions made during the 2012 session to promote substantive discussions on issues on the agenda, and in addition, according to a schedule of activities developed under the responsibility of the Presidents of the Conference on Disarmament, on the revitalization of the Conference, as well as the discussions held on other issues that could also be relevant to the current international security environment,

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[1] *Official Records of the General Assembly, Sixty-seventh Session, Supplement No. 27* (A/67/27).

Welcoming the continued engagement between civil society and the Conference on Disarmament at its 2012 session according to decisions taken by the Conference,

Stressing the urgent need for the Conference on Disarmament to commence its substantive work at the beginning of its 2013 session,

1. *Reaffirms* the role of the Conference on Disarmament as the sole multilateral disarmament negotiating forum of the international community;

2. *Appreciates* the strong support expressed for the Conference on Disarmament during its 2012 session by Ministers for Foreign Affairs and other high-level officials, while also acknowledging their concern about its ongoing impasse, and takes into account their calls for greater flexibility with respect to commencing the substantive work of the Conference without further delay;

3. *Calls upon* the Conference on Disarmament to further intensify consultations and explore possibilities for overcoming its ongoing deadlock of well over a decade by adopting and implementing a balanced and comprehensive programme of work at the earliest possible date during its 2013 session, bearing in mind the decision on the programme of work adopted by the Conference on 29 May 2009, as well as other relevant present, past and future proposals;

4. *Welcomes* the decision of the Conference on Disarmament to request the current President and the incoming President to conduct consultations during the intersessional period and, if possible, make recommendations, taking into account all relevant proposals, past, present and future, including those submitted as documents of the Conference, views presented and discussions held, and to endeavour to keep the membership of the Conference informed, as appropriate, of their consultations;

5. *Requests* all States members of the Conference on Disarmament to cooperate with the current President and successive Presidents in their efforts to guide the Conference to the early commencement of its substantive work, including negotiations, in its 2013 session;

6. *Recognizes* the importance of continuing consultations on the question of the expansion of the membership of the Conference on Disarmament;

7. *Requests* the Secretary-General to continue to ensure and to strengthen, if needed, the provision to the Conference on Disarmament of all necessary administrative, substantive and conference support services;

8. *Requests* the Conference on Disarmament to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-eighth session a report on its work;

9. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-eighth session, under the item entitled "Review of the implementation of the recommendations and decisions adopted by the General Assembly at its tenth special session", the sub-item entitled "Report of the Conference on Disarmament".